

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SCA-01 A-01 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CU-04 AID-20 INT-08 SCEM-02 CPR-02

DRC-01 /180 W

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R 101551Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2043

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 9834

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, AFSP, ABLD

SUBJECT: FMG INTENTION TO OPEN CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO

REF: LAGOS 9104

1. MEA PERMANENT SECRETARY JOE IYALLA ON DECEMBER 10 MADE "A FORMAL REQUEST THAT THE USG PERMIT THE FMGN TO ESTABLISH A CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO." THE CONSULATE WOULD HAVE TWO PRIMARY FUNCTIONS: TO MINISTER TO THE WELFARE OF THE INCREASNGLY LARGE NUMBER OF NIGERIANS, PARTICULARLY STUDENTS, IN THE NEW CONSULATE'S JURISDICTIONAL AREA; AND TO PROMOTE TRADE AND COMMERCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NIGERIA. THE CONSULATE'S JURISDICTION WOULD EXTEND TO THE FOLLOWING STATES: ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, COLORADO, IDAHO, MONTANA, NEVADA, NEW MEXICO, OREGON, UTAH, WASHINGTON, AND WYOMING. THE CONSULATE WOULD HAVE A NIGERIAN COMPLEMENT OF THREE OR FOUR OFFICERS. THE FMG WOULD ESTABLISH THE CONSULATE IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THE CONCURRENCE OF THE USG.

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2. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS EXPEDITIOUS APPROVAL

OF THE REQUEST. THE NEW ESTABLISHMENT WOULD FACILITATE
INTERCHANGE AND ASSIST IN PREVENTING AND REDUCING PROBLEMS;
THE CONJUNCTION OF SEVERAL MATTERS (CONTINUATION OF OIL FLOW;
APPARENT FMG WILLINGNESS (LAGOS 9770) SEEK GREATER INVESTMENT:
PRESUMED EARLY LNG DECISION; REQUEST FOR EMBASSY VACATE A
BUILDING IN LAGOS, ETC.) MAKES A RELUCTANT OR NEGATIVE DECISION
AT LAST AWKWARD. THERE IS NO LOGICAL CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS
PROPOSAL AND OUR REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A CONSULATE IN PORT
HARCOURT: WE ALREADY HAVE TWO CONSULATES IN NIGERIA TO THE
FMG'S ONE IN THE U.S.; THE EMBASSY IS CONVINCED THAT THE
SLOWNESS IN ACCEDING TO THE PORT HARCOURT REQUEST IS ATTRIBUTABLE
SOLELY TO INTERNAL NIGERIAN PROBLEMS AS PREVIOUSLY EXPLAINED,
A FACT WHICH IYALLA AGAIN CONVINCINGLY OUTLINED TO THE AMBASSADOR
TODAY.
REINHARDT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE PROMOTION, CONSULATE OPENING, CONSULAR DISTRICTS, CONSULAR SERVICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LAGOS09834
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731235/aaaaazha.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LAGOS 9104
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FMG INTENTION TO OPEN CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO
TAGS: PFOR, AFSP, ABLD, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005